

ARTIST BIOGRAPHY

Please complete and return the following questionnaire for our reference file on May Show artists.

FULL NAME: Mary Kay Simon

PRESENT POSITION full-time
artist

DATE AND PLACE OF BIRTH: 07/09/55 Cleveland, Ohio

CATEGORY/PRIMARY MEDIA: Glass

ART TRAINING (Schools, Scholarships, etc.):

BFA, Cleveland Institute of Art, 1978.

MFA, Kent State University, 1984.

(Teaching Assistantships at: Haystack Mt. School of Crafts, Deer Isle, Maine;
Penland School, Penland, N. Carolina and Pilchuck Glass School, Seattle, Washington.)

EXHIBITIONS IN WHICH YOUR WORK HAS BEEN SHOWN (include location and year): (Selected, Recent)

Previous May Shows: 1982, 1984, 1986, and now 1990!; Corning Museum of Glass
"New Glass Reviews #10 (1984) and #11 (1990); "Washington Craft Show", the Smithsonian
Institution, 1989; "Exhibition 280", Huntington Museum of Art, 1989; "Governor's
Residence Art Collection" by Invitation of the Ohio Arts Council, Columbus, OH, 1989;
"The Best of 1989", Ohio Designer Craftsmen, 1989. Artist was in over 20
shows in 1989. Will do over 20 shows in 1990. Currently represented by over 40 galleries
nationally.

COLLECTIONS THAT NOW INCLUDE YOUR WORK:

Public: the Permanent Collection of the Corning Museum of Glass,
the University of Pittsburgh;Private, local: Betty Wolf collection, Willoughby, OH; Susan^{Dean} Trilling, Pepper Pike;
Michael Zeefe, Mentor, Ohio.

AWARDS:

Artist in Residence, Art park, New York, 1990.

We would appreciate having a statement about your philosophy and work as an artist—either general or something specific about the piece(s) selected for this year's May Show to aid us in the preparation of gallery talks and in the release of publicity materials. For more space, use the back of this sheet.

Statement attached

MARY KAY SIMONI

10611 East Washington Street • Chagrin Falls, Ohio 44022 • Telephone (216) 543-8000

STATEMENT

The piece on exhibit in this year's May Show is entitled "Skyscraper" and is from my recent "NoMo" series.

The term "NoMo" is a play on words and is derived from the term "PoMo". "PoMo" is slang for Postmodernism, the most prevalent architectural style of today. Since many of my buildings are in one mode of disaster or another such as burning or toppling over, they are "NoMo".

This particular skyscraper is burning. Bright red plexiglass flames can be seen licking out of the windows on the top floor. The brilliant, hot red, free-form shapes of the flames are in direct contrast to the stark cool green glass that makes up the body of the building.

Through the use of lacquers, I have colored the glass so that from the base to the top, the building gets lighter in color and becomes more transparent. I have also added yellow at the top so that it appears the cold glass building is "warmer" near the flames.

Although a burning building could be a morbid subject, my approach is more for visual appeal than for any deep, dark, hidden meaning. This almost whimsical approach has its roots in folk art and when the occasional viewer asks if I have morbid intentions, I say "...all the dogs, cats and people got out safely."

Such whimsy however, does not mean that the work should not be taken seriously as I have full intentions of being taken quite seriously as an artist.

THE CLEVELAND MUSEUM OF ART
ARTIST BIOGRAPHY

MAY 82

Please complete and return the following questionnaire for our reference file on Cleveland Artists.

FULL NAME: Mary Kay Simoni

DATE AND PLACE OF BIRTH: 7/9/55, Cleveland, Ohio

PRIMARY MEDIA Glass

ART TRAINING - Schools, Scholarships, etc.:

B.F.A. Cleveland Institute of Art, 1978

Teaching assistantship scholarship, Haystackip.
Mountain School of Crafts, Deer Isle, Maine, 8/80

Currently a teaching assistant at Kent State
University working towards an M.F.A. in Glass

EXHIBITIONS IN WHICH YOUR WORK HAS BEEN SHOWN:

Various exhibitions at C.I.A. and K.S.U.

The Glassmaster's Guild, Third Annual Art Glass Competition, N.Y., N.Y., 9/80

Marietta College Crafts National, Marietta,
Ohio, 11/80-12/80.

COLLECTIONS WHICH NOW INCLUDE YOUR WORK:

----No major collections----

AWARDS:

Kent State 1st Place Crafts Award, K.S.U. Student
Exhibition, Kent, Ohio, 1980, cash award, 2/82

Third Place Cain Park Arts Festival, Cleveland Hts.,
Ohio, 7/80, 7/81

Honorable Mention, Glassmaster's Guild, Third
Annual Art Glass Competition, N.Y., N.Y., 9/80

PRESENT POSITION:

Currently a teaching assistant at Kent State
University working towards an M.F.A. in Glass

We would appreciate any information regarding subsequent awards, purchases, exhibitions and scholarships.
Thank you for your cooperation.